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scales of pay of their employees on a par with those of the Central Government servants. But curiously enough the hon. Member now puts a supplementary question about allotment of houses. I want to know how this present supplementary question is related to the main question.''

MR. SPEAKER :—'' Will the hon. Member please explain? ''

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—'' It has a meaning and it has a connection with my main question, Sir. Is not this Government contributing to further disparity by making preferential allotment of houses in Government Estate to servants of the Government of India over the claims and subordinating the interests of the servants of the Government of Madras who draw a lesser pay than the Central Government servants? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I may inform the hon. Member that no such preference is being shown to Government of India servants.''

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—'' The Hon. Finance Minister stated that the finances of this State did not permit the raising of salaries of Government servants of this State to the level of Central Government servants. May I request him if the salaries of all cannot be raised, whether the salaries of the last grade servants at least will be raised to the level of the Central scale? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' We have given certain concessions to the last grade servants. We are looking after their interests quite effectively.''

DR. K. B. MENON :—'' May I know whether the Hon. the Finance Minister is aware of the fact that such gross disparity in salaries of Government servants living in the same place doing more or less the same kind of work leads to discontent and consequently to inefficiency? Will the Government, therefore, take steps to bring the salaries of the State officials at least as near as possible to the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' There is always the limitation of finance. However much our sympathy may lie, we have to operate within the resources available to us. Unfortunately, in the present financial position in which we are placed now, it is not possible to raise the salaries of Government servants. Moreover, recently, I think it was in 1947, the salaries of Government servants of this State were increased and that had cost us to the tune of 2½ crores of rupees.''

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—'' கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதிலளிக்கையில் கடைசி கீழ்த்தர சிப்பந்திகளுக்கு சில சலுகைகள் கொடுத்திருப்பதாகவும் அதன் மூலம் அவர்களுடைய உரிமைகளை திறமையாக பாதுகாப்பதாகவும் கூறினார். அப்படி சலுகைகள் காட்டுவது என்று சொன்னால் ஏற்கனவே அவர்களுக்கு சம்பளம் ரொம்ப நியாயமாகக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்றும் அதற்கு மேற்பட்டு சலுகைகள் கொடுத்திருப்பதாகவும் கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் கருதுகிறார்களா ? '' 10–50 a.m.

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This is a matter of opinion. A man receiving one hundred rupees may think that he is receiving very much less than what his requirements are, and a man receiving fifty rupees may be content with what he gets. As I have already said, we have to operate within the resources available."

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" I believe this question has got a bearing on the repeated demand made by the non-gazetted officers. Are the Government taking any steps to meet their demand at least half-way? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I know the demand of the non-gazetted officers. But that also is limited by our finances unfortunately."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" Sir, சென்னை அரசாங்கம் தங்களுடைய **N.G.O**-க்களுக்கு குறைந்த சம்பளம் கொடுப்பதால் தனிப்பட்ட முதலாளிகளும் தங்களுடைய சிப்பந்திகளுக்கு குறைவான சம்பளம் கொடுத்து வருகிறார்கள். அதை கவனித்தாவது **N.G.O.**-க்களுக்கு அதிகமான சம்பளம் கொடுக்க சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I wish all the private employers pay as much as the Government are paying. In Government service, there is a certain amount of security during the period of service and pension and gratuity after retirement."

Supply of electricity to Mettupalayam, Tiruchirappalli district.

* 188 *Q*.—SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM (on behalf of Sri P. Rangaswami Reddiar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received periodical representations from 1949 from the villagers of Mettupalayam and its surrounding places in Tiruchirappalli district requesting extension of electricity to those places;

(*b*) whether the villagers of Mettupalayam and Kolakkudi, Appanallur of Musiri taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, waited in deputation on the Hon. Minister for Public Works on 2nd May 1950 and represented to him the need for such extension of electricity;

(*c*) whether the area comprising the above villages is included in the Rural Extension Schemes of Government;

(*d*) whether the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, applied to the Government for advance loan to extend the supply of electricity to the said places; and

(*e*) whether the Government have considered the question of extending electricity to these important places in Musiri taluk, and, if so, the decision taken thereon?